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The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" There is no need for that. For, if he had complained, the Inspector-General would have taken action."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Could it be that Mr. Gopathi Narayanaswami Chetti has withdrawn that complaint subsequently ?" (Laughter.)

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I don't know."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether Mr. Shaik Imam and Mr. Chella Narasinga Rao were also examined in connection with the investigation of this allegation regarding them ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes, Sir, it is after investigation that this answer is given, which is based on the report of the Inspector-General of Prisons."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Did Messrs. Shaik Imam and Chella Narasinga Rao state categorically that they were not beaten ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I don't know."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether the report of the inquiry will be placed on the table of this House ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Why, Sir ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because it is not in the interests of the public, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Is it in the interests of the public to beat unarmed and non-violent political prisoners ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The beating has been denied, Sir."

Mr. B. POCKER SAHIB :—" Then, does the Inspector-General of Prisons believe that Mr. Gopathi Narayanaswami Chetti has told a lie ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not admit the correctness of the premises of my hon. Friend."

11-30 a.m. Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti also reported to the hon. the Law Member about this at the Club ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir."

Representation to the Inspector-General of Prisons regarding beating of prisoners in the Madras Penitentiary.

* 263 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a political convict, Sankar by name, was beaten in the Madras Penitentiary by the Superintendent or under his orders ;

(*b*) what was the occasion for such beating and what were the reasons that led to the occurrence ;

(*c*) with what the beating was done and how many blows were dealt with and what was the condition of the convict's health ;

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(*d*) whether it is a fact that reports of the beating of convicts by warders were made to the Superintendent of the Jail and the Inspector-General of Prisons;

(*e*) if so, whether any action was taken by the authorities concerned on the said reports, and if not, why not;

(*f*) whether the Government propose to inquire into such cases of beating and take suitable action against its recurrence;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that when the Inspector-General of Prisons visited the Jail in September last, reports of cases of beating of convicts were reported to him by one A. Subbayya on behalf of the convicts;

(*h*) whether it is a fact that the Inspector-General of Prisons replied that the convicts deserved no better treatment; and if not, what was the reply given by the Inspector-General of Prisons to the said A. Subbayya, and why?

A.—A report has been called for.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I enquire, Sir, why there are such inordinate delays in the receipt of reports upon such important matters?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"There is no delay at all. As a matter of fact, it is out of respect to my hon. Friend that I did not keep this question pending till I received final answer. I wanted to give the information which was in my power as early as possible."

Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari:—"When does the hon. the Law Member expect to get the reply?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I cannot say."

Alleged racial discrimination among convicts in the Madras Penitentiary.

*264 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that racial discrimination is being shown between 'B' class Indian prisoners and 'C' class European and Anglo-Indian prisoners in the Madras Penitentiary in the matter of supply of cots;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that while the Superintendent refused to provide 'B' class Indian convicts with cots, he provided cots for 'C' class European and Anglo-Indian prisoners; and

(*c*) if so, what are the reasons for such differential treatment?

A.—(*a*) to (*c*) The information has been called for.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"Has it been received since?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"No, Sir."

Alleged ill-health of prisoners in the Madras Penitentiary.

*265 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many prisoners in the Madras Penitentiary are suffering from diseases relating to the anus;

(*b*) what are the reasons; why the prisoners suffered from such diseases and whether the same have been investigated; and

(*c*) what action has been taken by the Superintendent or the Jail Doctor to cure the convicts of such diseases?

A.—The Government have no information. They will call for it.

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